President.—He has the right to call for my decision, and I say it is not a supplementary question.

Supply of Medicinies.

74. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.— 1. Will the Government be pleased to state whether tinctures and other spirituous preparations from the Bose's Laboratories are being supplied to the State ;

2. will the Government be pleased to state whether these preparations are bought by the Government direct from Bose's Laboratories or their agents or through any agents;

3. will the Government be pleased to state the name of the agent and the approximate quantity in pounds of the supply of Bose's preparations;

4. will the Government be pleased to state, if they are aware that the spirituous preparations of Bose's Laboratories can be had at duty-free rates;

5. if the Government are aware of this, will they kindly state, if the drugs supplied to the State are charged at duty-free rates or not;

6. will the Government be pleased to state why they have not taken steps to secure these drugs at the duty-free rates;

7. will the Government be pleased to give a statement showing the quantity of the following drugs ordered in 1101 and 1102 and the price charged per lb. or bottle or bag of 112 lbs.:—

Magnesium Sulphate, Santonine, Soda Bicarbonate, Borax pulvis, Bismouth Subnitras, Pottas nitras, Vinum Rectiferatus, Emplaster Canthardis, Tincture Cannabis Indica, Folia Bachu;

8. will the Government be pleased to state, if they are aware that the Native States of Kashmir, Patiala, Kapurthala, Jhind, Nabha, Jhodpur, Gwalior, Bhopal, Coch-Behar, Hyderabad and many others order their drugs yearly after sending copies of State medical indents to several leading firms, and comparing the quotations made by the firms;

9. will the Government be pleased to state, if it is aware that a great deal of State money could be saved by adopting this method, and that, by the present arrangements, Government is losing a big sum of money yearly ;

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.— 1. Part of the supply of tinctures was so obtained in the year 1101.

2. Through their agents.

3. Messrs. Raja D. Mawnay and Co. About 4,080 lbs.

4. Yes.

5. At duty-free rates.

6. No answer necessary.

7. Vide statement appended. (*Vide Appendix II.*)

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8. No.

9. It is not enough to consider cheapness of price only; reliability of the firm and quality of articles, consistent with economy, have also to be taken into consideration.

Insanitary condition of a drain in Kunnamkulam.

75. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(a) whether the Government, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, or the Health Officer at Kunnamkulam has received any petition stating:

"പാറേൽ അങ്ങാടിയിൽ പൊല്ലീസ്സ സ്റ്റേഷനടുത്തുള്ള നാലുംകൂടിയ വഴിയിൽനിന്നും വടക്കോട്ടുള്ള അങ്ങാടിയുടെ കിഴക്കെ ഭാഗം ചാലൽ വെള്ളം ചളി മുതലായതുകൾ കെട്ടിനിന്നു അതു മൂലം ടി കിഴക്കെഭാഗം വീട്ടുകാർക്ക കൊതു മുതലായ പ്രാണികളുടെ ഉപദ്രവവും മലമ്പനി മുതലായ രോഗങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു."

and if so, (b) whether the Government have made enquiries about this grievance; and if so,

(c) whether the Government has taken adequate action to redress the grievance; and if so,

(d) what is it?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) Yes, a petition to that effect was received by the Health Officer as well as by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The reports appended contain the information required. (*Vide Appendix III.*)

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Has any action been taken in this matter besides sending a report to the Chief Engineer?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. Necessary action has been taken, and I wrote to the Chief Engineer about it, and since the answer to this question has been sent, I have heard from the Chief Engineer that it did not form part of his work to attend to this drain. So I have made up my mind to get it done, and have reported to the Government about it. I will look into it in the next year's work.

Panchayat Administration.

76. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state if the several matters that were engaging their attention, as stated in *the Administration Reports* of the Agriculture and Panchayat Department for 1100 and 1101, designed to increase the efficiency and usefulness of the Panchayats have

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APPENDIX II.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 74).

Staetment of price to certain drugs in 1101 and 1102.

Drugs	1101			1102		
	Quantity	Per	Price	Quantity	Per	Price
			Rs. A. P.			Rs. A. P.
Magnesium Sulphate...	266 cwt.	cwt.	6 14 0	254 cwt.	cwt.	8 12 0
Santonine ...	15 lb.	oz.	44 0 0	15 lb.	oz.	44 0 0
Soda bicarbonate ...	1147 ,,	lb.	0 4 0	1344 ,,	lb.	0 4 0
Borax pulvis ...	30 ,,	,,	0 12 0	34 ,,	,,	0 12 0
Bismuth subnitras ...	184 ,,	,,	13 8 0	270 ,,	,,	13 8 0
Potas nitras ...	152 ,,	,,	1 2 0	197 ,,	,,	1 2 0
Vinum Rectificatus ...	200 gal.	gal.	7 8 8	195 gal.	gal.	7 8 8
Emplaster Canthardis..	5 oz.	oz.	0 8 0	13 cz.	oz.	0 8 0
Tincture Canabis Indica ...	5 lb.	lb.	4 0 0	This year we have received only concentrated tincture		
Folia Buchu ...	56 ,,	,,	6 0 0	58 lb.	lb.	6 0 0

Mag. Sulph. in 1101 @ Rs. 6—14—0 Indian Manufacture (Parry & Co.)
Do in 1102 @ Rs. 8—12—0 Imported from Europe.

APPENDIX III.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 75.)

Report dated 8th Medam 1102 from the Health Officer, Kunnamkulam to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

There was a similar petition to me also. I personally inquired into the matter and saw things myself. There is some truth in the petition, though facts have been overstated and magnified by the petitioners. The water flowing from the backyard of the neighbouring house, which has no other outlet for escape, cannot freely pass through the public drain, as the drain is not constructed and the gradient is bad. Water therefore collects in the depressed portion of the drain and stagnates a little. To give the matter a serious appearance and thereby drive the Government to take up the construction of the drain urgently, the petitioner himself put up a temporary bund across the drain and thereby prevented even the partial flow of water beyond the limit of his grocery shop which would otherwise have happened. When questioned by me as to the propriety of his conduct in obstructing the

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